

DEMING DAILY LIGHT.

VOL. 10.

DEMING, GRANT COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, SATURDAY, MAY 10, 1890.

NO. 19.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

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COMMENT.

The political party of New Mexico that forces the issue of statehood will be defeated at the polls this fall. [Raton Range.]

Immediate statehood for New Mexico means permanent rule, and death to public schools and progress. What thinking tax-payer can take the risk.

We would call attention to a summary of Senator Vest's report, which we publish in this issue. This summary is interesting, but every citizen should endeavor to secure and read the full report.

In the controversy between D. P. Carr and Ira M. Bond, as carried on through the columns of the *Optic*, that paper is the main loser. Nobody in Bernalillo or Grant counties, cares to read the vapors of either Bond or Carr.

Judge O'Brien's decision against the New Mexico meat inspection law, throws out of employment a small army of very hungry inspectors, who held the places in return for valuable political services. But the butchers are jubilant.

Just as we prophesied, last week, the Republican press of the Territory has commenced howling at Chief Justice O'Brien for retaining Clerk Bunker and Steingrapher Gortner. The *New Mexico* heads the pack, of course, and other sheets yelp in echo.

No need to look in the *HEADLIGHT* to find when Gov. Ross strikes a blow at the last legislature or the constitutional convention. You can hear some one of the crowd grunt, and it is often a hybrid grunt; a sort of mixture of groan of pain and howl of rage. [Santa Fe Sun.]

Hon. Anthony Joseph says he "would rather live in a Republican state than a Democratic Territory."
The above item is floating through the Republican press of the Territory, but cannot be traced to any authentic source. It is safe to assume that Mr. Joseph never made so foolish a remark.

Statehood and the inevitable jobbery which would follow would cost New Mexico tax payers fully two per cent. additional taxation, and place our affairs in the absolute control of a set of unprincipled scoundrels. Can we afford to pay four per cent. taxes, and be ruled by robbers?

Delegate Antonio Joseph, Chairman Glidersleeve, of the Democratic central committee, and Judge Trimble, of Albuquerque, are in favor of statehood, so state the *New Mexico*, latest advice from Washington. The boodle ring evidently has lost its power with these three Democrats. It can not be denied that these latter three are men of influence in their party. The little knot of Albuquerque and Deming Democrats would be bosses do not run things in the Democratic party any longer, it seems. [New Mexico.]

It is rather unkind in the *New Mexican*, to charge that its new converts to the cause of statehood, are fresh from the power of a "boodle ring."

We trust Congress will refuse to make any appropriation for a session of the New Mexico Legislature, this winter. The last legislature, as a body and in its work, was a disgrace and a curse to the Territory, and there is no prospect of any improvement. We will be much better off without legislatures, until we can improve on the material of which they have heretofore been composed.

The New Mexico meat inspection law has followed into the grave of faulty legislation the numerous measures of like character which have been declared unconstitutional wherever tested. Chief Justice O'Brien, presiding over the district court at Las Vegas this week, in deciding the case of the Territory vs. C. C. Neilner, declared the law of no effect, but rendered no written opinion, stating that the merits of such a law had been so often discussed in decrees, he did not think it necessary to do more than to decide the case. The law was of no benefit to the cattle interests of the territory, and the only mourners over its annulment will be a few political pensioners who were getting pickings out of its enforcement. [Las Vegas Stock grower.]

DEGRADING THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE.

An examination of the proposed Constitution formulated at Santa Fe last summer, discloses a studied and consistent purpose and effort on the part of that convention to degrade the office of Governor of the state to a condition of inferiority subject to the personal and partisan caprices of the Legislature. From the position of a co-ordinate branch of the Government, he is reduced to that of a subordinate official.

It is universal custom, in prescribing the duties and powers of the Governor of a state, in terms to clothe him with executive powers. The Constitution of the United States prescribes that "the Executive power shall be in a President." The organic act of the Territories, which is to them a Constitution, prescribes that "the Executive powers of each Territory shall be vested in a Governor."

This is also the usual formula of state Constitutions with reference to state governors, and has been the method of signaling the executive function of the Governor and distinguishing it from that of other executive or state officers, since the beginning of the Government. It describes him at once, distinctly and unequivocally, as the chief Executive officer of the state.

But this Constitution does nothing of the kind. The Executive Chapter, Article 5, Section 1, provides that "the Executive department shall consist of a governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of public accounts, state treasurer, attorney general, and superintendent of public instruction."

Here is not a word to show that the Governor is superior in any respect to any of these—nothing that clothes him with Executive power—nothing to show that he is anything more than an ordinary state officer with a prescribed routine of duties to perform, the same as the other officials enumerated—no more and no less.

This is followed in section 8 of the same article, by a monstrous provision which makes it possible to suspend him by the preferment of articles of impeachment by the House, and keep him out of his office practically from the beginning to the end of his term, and without trial, solely at the will of an unfriendly majority in the House of Representatives.

These two provisions for the degradation of the Executive office are still further supplemented by the practical destruction of the veto power, in section 7, of the same article, under which it is made possible for a bill to be passed in the Legislature over the Executive objection by a less vote than is required to pass the same bill in the first instance.

Section 6 of the same article requires that the Governor shall report to the Legislature, "fully and in writing," his reasons for every pardon or remission of fine that he may grant—making the chief executive officer of the Territory accountable to the Legislature for the performance of an act for which he alone is responsible to the people of his state, and for a single failure to so account he may be impeached by the House and removed without trial. It establishes over the Governor a most obnoxious censorship in what may be a mere trivial affair of his office, in which the Legislature and the public may not have the slightest interest.

These several propositions of this Constitution emphasize a disposition to establish a degree of power in the Legislature which would destroy the co-ordinate quality of the three branches of government and make the legislative branch the dominant, overshadowing force in administration—vesting it at once with executive as well as legislative functions and giving it a power of supervision and surveillance over the action of the Executive that practically makes that officer a mere figure head in the administration of the functions of his office. It may be worth noting in this connection that a considerable number of the most active and influential members of

the Convention that framed this Constitution were also members of the late Legislature—that the Territorial Governor at that time stood in the way of very many of the acts of legislative infamy that characterized that Legislature and which were concocted and railroaded through by these very members of the Convention—that they expect to become members of and direct the policies and conduct of the expected State Legislature, and, fearful that the same impediment may again stand in the way of the accomplishment of their iniquitous schemes, they proposed to forefend against any such contingencies in the future by disarming him by constitutional enactment and reducing the Executive office to a mere perfunctory force.

That was an unfortunate slip of the tongue by Gov. Prince, in his interview with the Chicago Tribune, the other day. After all these years of fawning and slobbering over the native citizens of New Mexico, apparently in anticipation of the day when canting hypocrisy might bring him in sight of coveted honors incident to statehood, that he should in a moment of fatal forgetfulness apply to them the ugly and degrading term of "greaser," is something in the nature of an astounding ridiculousness. The Territory is fairly convulsed with the great *faux pas*, some with laughter, his immediate friends with chagrin, the object of his characterization with undisguised and justifiable anger, and all with amazement that a politician of such reputed cleverness should make such a ridiculous and disastrous "break." The circumstance will cost Prince a thousand or more letters of explanation, and, even then, he will ever have the haunting consciousness that the thing is liable to be sprung on him at any inauspicious moment. The time may come when L. Bradford will understand the feelings of the whipped parrot, who soliloquized "Polly! You talk too much."

THE DRESSED BEEF REPORT.

Senator Vest's report made for the committee appointed to investigate the beef trade, forces an issue against the Dressed Beef monopoly which will finally overthrow it. The report is a document of signal ability, constituting such a review of the cattle industry of the country has never been made before, and bearing in every point on the monopoly through which both consumers and producers are robbed. Accompanying it are three bills and a joint resolution, and the passage of the Senate bill is recommended—this bill, which is referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee, having been changed with a special view to breaking the corrupt combination by which the cattle market is controlled. The three additional bills provide that clearances shall be refused to vessels which act under monopoly contracts in exporting cattle; that the railroads shall not discriminate against improved cars for shipping live cattle or in favor of refrigerator cars, and that beef offered for export shall be inspected. The joint resolution calls for correspondence with England looking to the abrogation of the regulation under which American live cattle must be slaughtered at the English port of entry.

In reviewing the decline in the price of live stock from \$7.15 a hundred-weight in January, 1884, to \$5.40 a hundred-weight in January, 1889, Senator Vest shows, on testimony taken by the committee, that it is due to a combination between the "Big Four" and the railroads. The decline follows after the "Evener's combination," which operated from 1879 to 1878, centralizing the control of the live cattle trade in the hands of the Chicago conspirators, who received a rebate of \$15 a car on all cattle shipped East over New York Central, the Pennsylvania and Erie railroads. The monopoly conspiracy paved the way for the Dressed Beef monopoly and made possible its success.

The evidence taken by Senator Vest's committee has proven that ARCADE & CO., BRYCE & CO., NELSON, MORRIS & CO. and HARMON & CO. (the Big Four) control the cattle and beef markets; that they force shippers who refuse their first bid to accept a lower price, and that they conspire to bankrupt butchers who buy and slaughter their own beef cattle. It is shown on ARCADE's own evidence that they are in a "combine," "trust," or conspiracy to fix the price of beef to the purchaser or consumer, and that they have an agreement not to interfere with each other in certain markets and localities. And it is further proven by the evidence that they conspired in filling government contracts to supply meat to the Hampton Soldiers' Home, to the National Hospital and other institutions, one firm bidding and all four furnishing the meat in rotation. It is proven also that they combine in opening shops to undersell and ruin butchers who buy live cattle; that they combined in refusing to sell meat to the butchers of Washington who bid against them on government contracts, and that in Chicago they acted under agreement in evading the committee's process.

As it has been argued that the increased supply of pork cheapens the price of cattle, Senator Vest shows on ARCADE's sworn admissions that the "Big Four" is in a combine or conspiracy with the Chicago pork-packers, under the terms of which packers who kill more than a certain number of hogs are bound to pay

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